

## Message Text

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14

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IO:LKAHN

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R 121816Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 242910

THE FOLLOWING TEL FROM USMISSION USAN NY DATED 12 DEC 73  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC INFO PHNOM PENH IS REPTED.

QTE E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR UN XM CB

SUBJ: KHMER QUESTION: LATIN AMERICAN VOTE

REF: A) STATE 238679 (NOTAL)

B)) USUN 5410 TO DEPT.

SUMMARY:NINETEEN LATIN AMERICAN YES VOTES WERE MAJOR  
FACTOR IN NARROW (53 TO 50) VICTORY FOR MOTION AVOIDING  
28TH GA ACTION ON PRO-SIHANOUK RESOLUTION. LA'S WERE  
ALSO HELPFUL IN STATEMENTS AND BEHIND THE SCENES. ISSUE  
OF INTERVENTION IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS WAS KEY ONE FOR LA'S,  
BUT THERE WAS ALSO CONSIDERABLE SYMPATHY FOR KHMER RE-  
PUBLIC AND RESENTMENT OF NON-AWQGNED RAILROADING EFFORT.  
WE SUGGEST POSTS IN 19 COUNTRIES EXPRESS APPRECIATION.  
END SUMMARY.

1. FINAL OUTCOME OF KHMER QUESTION WAS NARROW COTE (53 YES,  
50 NO, 21 ABSTENTIONS AND 11 ABSENCES) IN PLENARY DEC. 5 IN  
FAVOR OF ORAL MOTION TO DEFER QUESTION (TECHNICALLY "ADJOURN")  
UNTIL NEXT YNGA. WHILE OBVIOUSLY EVERY VOTE COUNTED, 19  
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YES VOTES FROM LATIN AMERICA (BAHAMAS, BARBADOS, BOLIVIA,

BRAZIL, CHILE, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HAITI, HONDURAS, MEXICO, NICARAGUA, PANAMA, PARAGUAY, URUGUAY AND VENEZUELA ) WERE PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT AS LARGEST NUMBER FROM ANY REGION. WESTERN EUROPE AND EAST ASIA WERE NEXT. OTHER SIX LA'S WERE DIVIDED AMONG TWO NO'S (CUBA, GUYANA), TWO ABSTENTIONS (ARGENTINA, TRINIDAD/TOBAGO), AND TWO SEEMINGLY INTENTIONAL ABSENCES (JAMAICA, PERU).

2. LA'S WERE ALSO HELPFUL IN DEBATES AND IN BEHIND-THE-SCENES. BOLIVIA (DE ZAVALA), PARAGUAY (BARREIRO), URUGUAY (GIAMBRUNO) AND BARBADOS (WALDRON-RAMSEY) SPOKE STRONGLY AGAINST PRO-SIHANOUK RESOLUTION, BARBADOS BEING PARTICULARLY OUTSPOKEN IN TAKING ON THE NON-ALIGNED. HAITI, VENEZUELA, NICARAGUA AND COSTA RICA WERE ALSO INSCRIBED TO SPEAK, BUT DID NOT DO SO SINCE DEBATE WAS CUT OFF BY LIBERIAN MOTION TO DEFER QUESTION. (WE AND ALLIES TOOK CARE TO INFORM THEM OF THIS MANEUVER IN ADVANCE AND THEY WERE AGREEABLE TO IT.) URUGUAY (GIAMBRUNO) WAS ONE OF TWO SPEAKERS CHOSEN TO SECOND LIBERIAN MOTION. EARLIER, WHEN IT APPEARED THAT WRITTEN RESOLUTION FOR DEFERMENT MIGHT BE REQUIRED INSTEAD OF SIMPLE MOTION FROM FLOOR, BARBADOS, BOLIVIA, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, GUATEMALA, HAITI, HONDUREAS, PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY (IN ADDITION TO LESOTHO AND LIBERIA) AGREED TO COSPONSOR. COLOMBIA AS WELL AS SEVERAL OTHERS MENTIONED ABOVE WERE ACTIVE IN LOBBYING AMONG LATIN AMERICAN GROUP.

3. LA VOTE ON DEFERMENT REPRESENTED SOME IMPROVEMENT OVER ANTICIPATED VOTE ON PRO-SIHANOUK RESOLUTION, ALTHOUGH NOT QUITE AS MUCH AS HOPED. ALL THOSE VOTING YES ON DEFERMENT WERE PREPARED TO VOTE AGAINST SUBSTANTIVE RESOLUTION, EXCEPT FOR MEXICO (ABSTANTION) AND POSSIBLY PANAMA (UNCOMMITTED, POSSIBLE ABSTENTION). IN ADDITION TO CUBA (A COSPONSOR), GUYANA AND PERU HAD INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTE FOR RES AND TRINIDAD/TOBAGO SEEMED INCLINED TO DO SO, WHILE JAMAICA WAS UNDECIDED AND ARGENTINA HAD INSTRUCTIONS TO ABSTAIN. ONE ABVIOUS FACTOR WAS THAT ALL SIX LA'S WHO FAILED TO VOTE FOR DEFEREMENT ARE MEMBERS OF NON-ALIGNED GROUP. WE KNOW OF SOME (INCLUDING JAMAICA) THAT WERE UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE FROM NON-ALIGNED AND CHINESE, WHO PLAYED UP DEFERMENT AS PARTISAN MOVE RATHER THAN COMPROMISE. IT SEEMS THAT JAMAICA (WHO

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TOLD US AS MUCH) AND PERU SOLVED DILEMMA BETWEEN THIS AND APPEALS FROM EAST ASIANS AND OTHERS BY ABSENTING THEMSELVES. PERUVIANS ARE EXPLAINING THAT THEIR ABSENCE WAS MERE ERROR, WHILE ALSO SAYING THEY HAD NOT VOTING INSTRUCTIONS ON DEFERMENT.

4. OVERWHELMING LA OPPOSITION TO PRO-SIHANOUK RES AND SUPPORT FOR DEFERMENT WERE PRINCIPALLY BASED ON SINCERE, DEEP CONVICTION THAT UN HAD NO BUSINESS INTERVENING IN INTERNAL

AFFAIRS OF A MEMBER STATE BY DECIDING WHO SHOULD GOVERN IT AND BY SANCTIFYING A GOVERNMENT IN EXILE. THEY DEPLORED THIS ATTEMPTED BREACH OF CHARTER AND THE PRECEDENT IT WOULD SET. THIS DOES NOT GAINSAY EFFECTIVENESS OF LOBBYING BY CAMBODIANS, JAPANESE AND OTHER EAST ASIANS, FOR WHOM THERE WAS GENUINE SYMPATHY AS THE GROUP MOST INTIMATELY CONCERNED, AS WELL AS EFFECTIVENESS OF FONMIN LONG BORET'S LA TOUR LATE LAST YEAR. IN ADDITION, LA'S RESENTED EFFORT BY NON-ALIGNED GROUP TO OVERWHELM OTHERS BY INVOKING ALGIERS CONFERENCE "SOLIDARITY" AND THEREBY ACHIEVE BLOCK VOTING -- A FACOTR OF INCREASING CONCERN TO MODERATE LA'S IN OVERALL UN CONTEXT. DEPTH OF FEELING OVER KHMER ISSUE WAS DEMONSTRATED BY SPONTANEOUS BURST OF APPLAUSE FROM LA'S AND OTHER FRIENDLY DELEGATIONS WHEN VOTE COUNT FLASHED ON BOARD.

5. LASTLY, WE WISH TO NOTE THAT, WHILE LOBBYING AND TACTICS WERE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY OF EAST ASIANS, LA'S WERE WELL AWARE OF INTENSE US INTEREST, AND OUR FRIENDS WERE HAPPY TO COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH US AS WE PLAYED INCREASINGLY OPEN ROLE HERE IN FINAL STAGES. GIVEN THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF ISSUE, THIS IS INDEED GRATIFYING IN THE LIGHT OF OUR OVERALL RELATIONSHIPS WITH LATIN AMERICA.

6. ACTION SUGGESTED: SUPPLEMENTING SUGGESTIONS TO CERTAIN POSTS CONTAINED REF A AND TO ARA CONTAINED REF B, POSTS IN 19 COUNTRIES VOTING YES MAY WISH TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO HOST GOVERNMENTS FOR THEIR KEY SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR DEFERMENT, DRAWING ON FOREGOING AS APPROPRIATE, ESPECIALLY PARA 2. IN DOING SO, WE ALSO SUGGEST POSTS BEAR IN MIND THAT OUR POSITION HERE WAS ONE OF FULL SUPPORT TO WHAT WAS PRIMARILY AN EFFORT BY EAST ASIAN GROUP, I.E., KHMER REPUBLIC JAPAN, FIJI, PHILIPPINES, THAILAND, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, INDONESIA AND NEW ZEALAND. AS SUGGESTED BY DEPARTMENT IN REF A, POSTS MIGHT STRESS THAT DEFEREMENT SPARED  
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UN AND ITS MEMBERSHIP A POTENTIALLY DAMAGING PRECEDENT AND PROVIDED COMMON-SENSE SOLUTION WHICH KEEPS DOOR OPEN FOR POLITICAL RECONCILIATION OF CAMBODIAN FACTIONS.

7. WE ADD OUR OWN THANKS TO THOSE POSTS WHOSE SPECIAL DEMARCHES IN CCERTAIN CAPITALS EASED OUR JOB HERE.  
BENNETT  
UNQTE PORTER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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